

Application No.: 10/687329

Case No.: 59093US002

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Presently Amended) An optical interconnect device comprising:
 - (a) a plurality of fiber optic cables, each cable having two ends and comprising at least one optical fiber surrounded by a protective jacket where the diameter of the fiber optic cable is larger than the diameter of the optical fiber and where the protective jacket at least a first end of the fiber optic cable has been removed thereby exposing the optical fibers;
 - (b) a ribbonized assembly encasing a portion of the first end of the fiber optic cable and the optical fibers, wherein the fiber optic cable occupies an input zone, the fibers occupy an output zone, the cable and fibers both occupy a transition zone in which the fibers are non-parallel, and [where] the optical fibers in the [ribbonized assembly] output zone lie parallel to one another and [has] have a first pitch; and
 - (c) a ferrule attached to the ribbonized assembly, the ferrule having a plurality of internal grooves having a second pitch,
wherein the first pitch of the optical fibers is substantially equal to the second pitch of the ferrule.
2. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the optical fibers in the ribbonized assembly are touching or nearly touching one another.
3. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the ribbonized assembly is of a geometry that will not violate the minimum bend radius of the optical fiber.
4. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the fiber optic cable is a tight buffer fiber cable or a ruggedized fiber cable.
5. (Cancelled)

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6. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the ribbonized assembly comprises an ultraviolet light curable resin.
7. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the ribbonized assembly further comprises non-active fibers disposed adjacent to the optical fibers.
8. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the non-active fibers are of the same construction as the optical fibers.
9. (Original) The device of claim 8, wherein the non-active fibers are disposed between the optical fibers.
10. (Original) The device of claim 8, wherein the optical fibers are disposed between the non-active fibers.
11. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the protective jacket on both ends of the fiber optic cable has been removed to expose the optical fibers.
12. (Original) The device of claim 11 wherein the ferrule is terminated to a MT connector.
13. (Original) The device of claim 12, wherein the second end of the fiber optic cable is terminated to an optical device.
14. (Original) The device of claim 13, wherein the optical device is selected from the group consisting of simplex fiber optic connector, duplex fiber optic connector, parallel fiber optic connector, MT connector, simplex fusion splint, parallel fusion splint, mechanical splice splint, simplex v-groove, furcation block, shuffle block, and combinations thereof.
15. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the ribbonized assembly is straight or curved.